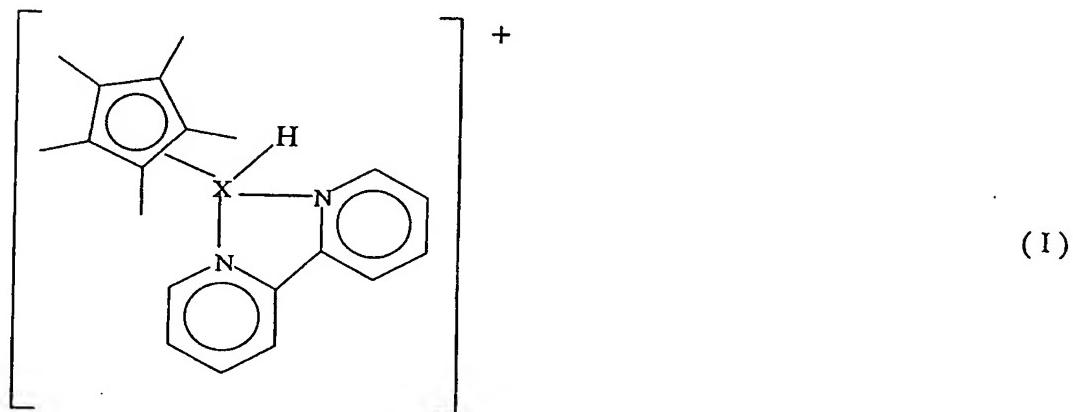


CLAIMS

1. A photoacid generator comprising a metal hydride complex represented by the formula (I):



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wherein X represents a metal atom.

2. The photoacid generator according to claim 1, wherein X in the formula (I) is iridium, ruthenium, rhodium or cobalt.